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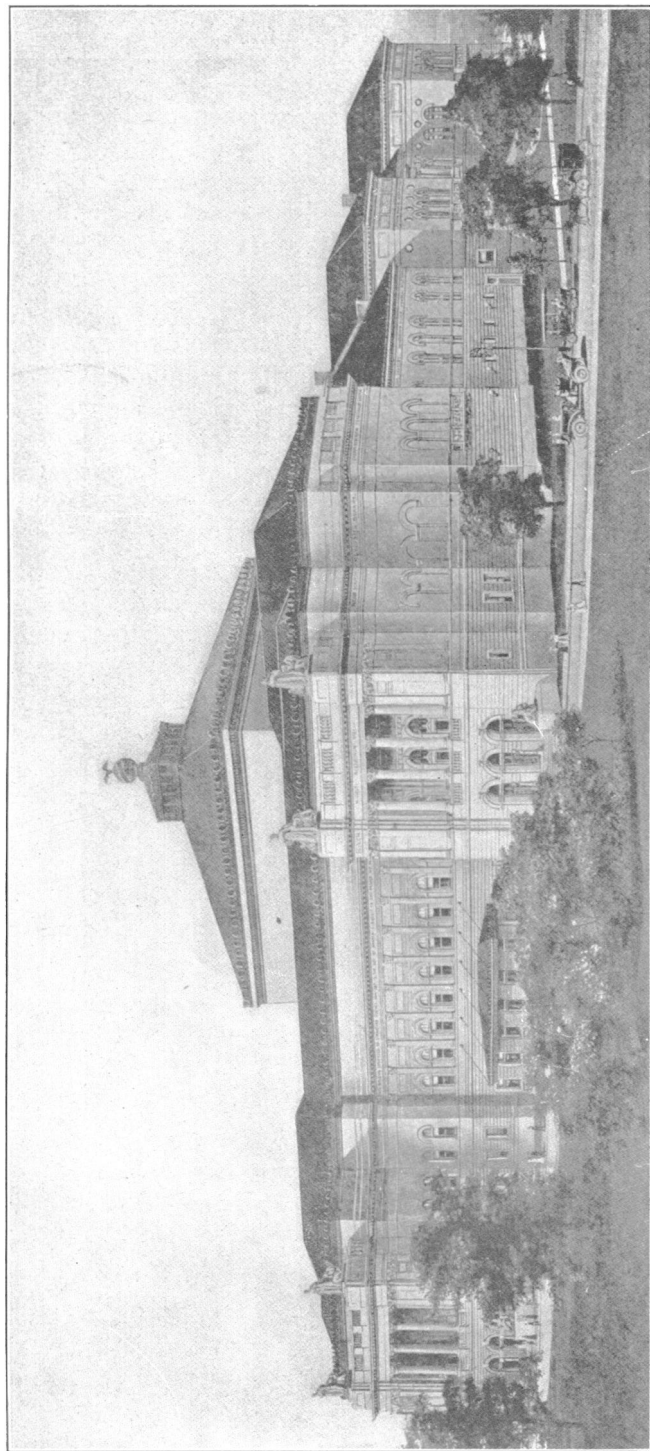
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THE CARNEGIE INSTITUTE, Headquarters of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

THE PROGRESS OF SCIENCE

*THE PITTSBURGH MEETING
OF THE AMERICAN ASSO-
CIATION FOR THE AD-
VANCEMENT OF
SCIENCE*

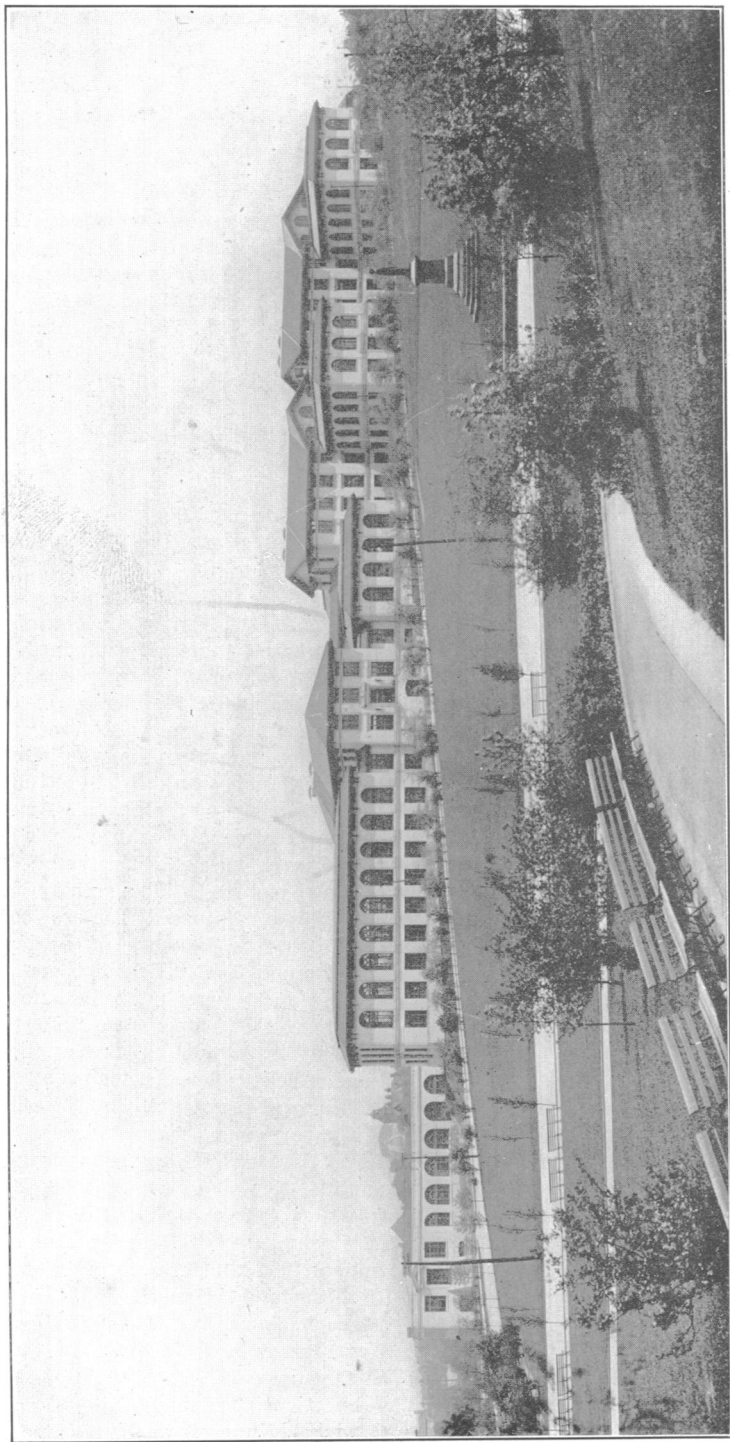
THE seventieth meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science was held in Pittsburgh, Pa., beginning on December 28, 1917, and continuing until January 3, 1918. At the opening general session on the evening of the first day, held in the lecture hall of the Carnegie Institute, Dr. C. R. Van Hise, retiring president of the association, gave his address, which had for its title "Some Economic Aspects of the World War."

Dr. Van Hise, distinguished equally as a geologist and for his administrative work as president of the University of Wisconsin, has made a special study of the conservation of national resources and related subjects, having prepared recently for the Food Administration an extensive work entitled "Conservation and Regulation in the United States during the World War." His address before the American Association was an authoritative review of the economic situation which should be widely read. He closes with the statement that, while nothing can compensate for the men lost in the war, he believed it probable "that if, following the war, wise governmental regulation is continued for essential commodities as well as the utilities, the savings of the people may be sufficient to meet the money cost of the war."

The addresses of the chairmen of the sections and of the presidents of the special societies, as well as the papers and discussions, in large

measure followed President Van Hise in taking up questions concerned with national efficiency and wartime activities. Thus the physicists held a general-interest session on the relationship of physics to the war, and the botanists one on war problems of botany. The zoologists discussed contributions of zoology to human welfare, the entomologists insects and camp sanitation, and how entomologists can assist in increasing food production. Before the Entomological Society, Dr. Vernon F. Kellogg, of Stanford University, made an address on the biological aspects of the war. The botanists chose as the subject for their symposium "phytopathology in relation to war service"; the section of experimental medicine considered the medical problems of the war, which included an address by Lieutenant George Loewy, of the French Army, on the treatment of war wounds by the Carrel method, illustrated by moving pictures. The section of agriculture discussed factors concerned in the increase of agricultural production. Many other addresses and papers might be quoted showing the importance of the meeting in promoting the applications of science to wartime problems.

The total registration at the office of the permanent secretary was 692, distributed as follows: Pennsylvania 194, New York 84, Ohio 59, District of Columbia 44, Illinois 34, Massachusetts 26, West Virginia 21, Indiana 20, Michigan 18, Wisconsin 15, Maryland, Missouri and Canada 14 each, Iowa and Texas 13 each, New Jersey and Virginia 11 each, California 10, North Carolina 8, Connecticut, Tennessee and Kansas 6 each, Minnesota and Arizona 5 each, New Hampshire, Louisiana



THE CARNEGIE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, in which many of the meetings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science were held.

and Montana 4 each, Maine, Delaware and Kentucky 3 each, Japan, Nebraska, Utah, Oregon and Colorado 2 each, Rhode Island, Georgia, North Dakota, Arkansas and Wyoming 1 each. The interest of the meeting was enhanced by the presence of the following foreigners, who were made honorary associates for the meeting: Lieutenant Georgia Abbetti, of the Italian Military Commission; Lieutenant G. P. Thompson, of the Royal Flying Corps of Great Britain; Captain DeGuiche, of the French Military Commission, and Dr. Shigetaro Kawasaki, chief geologist of Korea.

It was decided to hold the next meeting of the association in Boston, Massachusetts, the meeting to begin on Friday, December 27, 1918. This decision was adopted with the amendment that the committee on policy be given the power to cancel the meeting, or to change the place should this seem to be desirable. It was recommended that St. Louis be chosen for the place of meeting following Boston.

The following officers were elected:

President, John M. Coulter, the University of Chicago;

Vice-presidents as follows:

Section A, Mathematics and Astronomy, George D. Birkhoff, Harvard University;

Section B, Physics, Gordon T. Hull, Dartmouth College;

Section C, Chemistry, Alexander Smith, Columbia University;

Section D, Mechanical Science and Engineering, Ira N. Hollis, Worcester Polytechnic Institute;

Section E, Geology and Geography, David White, U. S. Geological Survey, Washington, D. C.;

Section F, Zoology, Wm. Patten, Dartmouth College;

Section G, Botany, A. F. Blakeslee, Cold Spring Harbor;

Section H, Anthropology and Psychology (no election);

Section I, Social and Economic Science, John Barrett, Washington;

Section K, Physiology and Experimental Medicine, Frederic S. Lee, Columbia University;

Section L, Education, S. A. Courtis, Detroit, Mich.;

Section M, Agriculture, H. P. Armsby, Pennsylvania State College.

WAR-TIME ACTIVITIES OF THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

THE activities of the Geological Survey, Department of the Interior, during the fiscal year 1916-17 have been concentrated on investigations connected with military and industrial preparedness, as shown by the Annual Report of the director of the survey. These activities have included the preparation of special reports for the War and Navy Departments and the Council of National Defense, the making of military surveys, the printing of military maps and hydrographic charts, and the contribution of engineer officers to the Reserve Corps.

The survey's investigations of minerals that have assumed special interest because of the war have been both expanded and made more intensive. Special reports giving results already at hand, the product of years of field and office investigation, have been published for the information of the general public or prepared for the immediate use of some official commission, committee or bureau. Geologic field work has been concentrated on deposits of minerals that are essential to the successful prosecution of the war, especially those of which the domestic supply falls short of present demands. Every available oil geologist is at work in petroleum regions where geologic exploration may lead to increased production. Other geologists are engaged in a search for commercial deposits of the "war minerals"—manganese, pyrite, plati-